

DEC 13 1950

VOL. XIV, No. 2

Fall 1950

LIBRARY NEWS

ISSUED SEMI-ANNUALLY

BY

THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY
COMMISSION

JACKSON



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Attention, Library Trustees, Librarians!

A change in **Library Legislation** needs your immediate attention.

No, this is not legislative year. The regular session of the Mississippi State Legislature will not meet until January 1952 but at that time there are numerous (and you can't imagine how numerous) other demands on the time and attention of the legislators. The library bill that needs to be amended is **H.B. No. 120, Ch. 234**. This is the bill which allows the County Board of Supervisors to levy a tax for library support. The bill was originally passed in 1946, (Ch. 203) allowing all counties to pass a one-half mill levy. Since the assessed valuation of most of our counties is comparatively low the one-half mill levy is not sufficient to operate a county library. At the 1950 session of the legislature a bill was introduced to allow all counties to make a two mill levy in the House and referred to the County Affairs Committee. In spite of our earnest request and the requests of many of you, this Committee rewrote the bill in its present form and it passed both Houses.

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Now, according to this law, counties having assessed valuation of more than \$12,000,000 may levy one-half mill library tax. Counties with assessed valuation of \$12,000,000 or less may levy a one-mill library tax.

Most county assessments are rapidly increasing and, while it is good to know that wealth of counties is on the increase, the tragedy is that the counties most able to support libraries are prohibited by law from carrying their part of the library tax. It is the counties that are on the "border line"—just above the \$12,000,000 mark that cannot give good library support. And some counties now giving the one mill levy will have to cut their assessment when they pass over into the \$12,000,000 class. Some of the counties approaching the \$12,000,000 mark are: Alcorn, Attala, Copiah, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Humphries, Lincoln, Monroe, Pearl River, Quitman, Rankin, Tallahatchie, Tunica.

Counties just over the \$12,000,000 assessed valuation, and therefore may levy only one-half mill tax are: Adams, Jackson, Lee, Lowndes, Madison, Panola, Pike, Yazoo.

Counties not in either of the above lists are either a good deal below or above the \$12,000,000 mark. In a regional library this law puts the burden of support on the poorer counties and makes for less equal distribution of library support between the poorer and more wealthy counties. Of course there is legal authority for any county to give unlimited library support from general funds (S.B. 166, Ch. 289, 1938) but the general funds in most counties seem to be pretty well taken up for other purposes and it is easier to get library support from the special tax levy.

Why not begin right now talking to your county legislators about getting the law amended so that all counties may at least levy a one-mill tax? Or shall we try again for the two mills? Remember, this is only permissive legislation. The fact that only a small percentage of counties

have made the tax levy since the law was passed in 1946 shows they in no way consider it mandatory.

If, at the next legislative session, we get this law amended and get the state appropriation increased we will have made wonderful progress. What do you think?

A copy of H.B. 120 was given in the Spring 1950 issue of Library News. The Library Commission is glad to send copies of the bill to all who request it.

Libraries Move Forward—State News

Since the 1950 state legislature made it possible for counties with \$12,000,000 assessed valuation and less to levy a one-mill tax for library support, some libraries went to work immediately to get their county tax levy raised to the legal limit. By some good library campaigning this was accomplished and the one mill tax levy made in **Alcorn, Attala, DeSoto, Lafayette, Scott, and Tate** Counties. The half-mill library assessment was made in **Grenada, Lincoln, Panola and Simpson**. At least in some of these counties the interest of local legislators was enlisted in getting increased funds. This is a splendid contact and should carry over for increased state support

County libraries already receiving the half mill library tax are: **Coahoma, Copiah, Harrison, Lee, Pontotoc, Tallahatchie, and Union**.

Regional Library Service Begun

Acting upon the recommendations of the Mississippi Library Survey, directed by Gretchen Knief Schenk, four counties in the state have completed plans for the beginning of the first regional library.

An annual grant of \$3,000 from Library Commission funds has been made to the regional library. The total income from the four counties in the region will meet the standards established by the Library Commission Board. The annual state grant of \$3,000 is in addition to local funds.

In addition to the cash grant the Library Commission has given the services of the Field Representative in the library campaign. Mrs. Currier has spent the major portion of the time for the last few months in this region and will continue to do so for some time to come. After this region is well under way the same service is offered to other regions.

The Mississippi Library Association voted approval of the Survey recommendations concerning regional library development as well as its other recommendations. The Library Commission approves and supports the plan. The study shows that the comparatively low assessed valuation of most Mississippi counties will not provide sufficient revenue for the support of county libraries, along with the long list of demands for the support of other social benefits. The combining of counties and pooling of resources is a necessity.

When the Library Commission presented the budget request to the 1950 state legislature a request for \$160,000 for county and regional libraries was made. It was the purpose, and will continue to be the purpose of the Library Commission to secure state funds in sufficient amount to make cash grants to libraries in large enough sums to stimulate local appropriations and to give substantial aid in library development. The present appropriation makes it possible to make an annual grant of only \$3,000 to each of two regions during this biennium and to continue the grant of only \$400 to libraries meeting minimum standards. If the state appropriation had been larger these small grants would have been increased.

The following is Mrs. Currier's account of how a regional library gets started.

A REGIONAL LIBRARY IS BORN

By

Lura Currier, Field Representative

As Mississippi's first regional library is just being rolled out of the delivery room, there are some things we learned that are going to be very, very helpful the next time we find ourselves "infanticipating."

Of course, even now, October 1950, after more than two years of planning and four months of campaigning, there is still no actual library in operation. The problem of setting up the library remains. There are no books bought, no bookmobiles rolling into the undeveloped areas. But up to this point and for the sake of this article, we are concerning ourselves with the experiences encountered in getting this infant library into the world. How his parents make a healthy, well-behaved child out of him and direct his growth into effective manhood is something else again, and most certainly shall furnish material for many more LIBRARY NEWS COMMUNICATIONS.

Regional library organization, like all Gaul, seems to divide itself into three parts: the groundwork, the campaign, and the showdown.

GROUNDWORK: Where did we start? Regional libraries, like charity, must begin at home. Home being, of course, some place where there is strong leadership, effective citizen participation, cooperation toward having really effective library service.

Good spadework in Region Number One had been done from the time that regional libraries were just gleams in the eyes of eager, hopeful Mississippi librarians. In the four counties now in the region (Tate, De Soto, Lafayette and Panola) there were, happily, three specific stages of library development that include just about any situation that may arise in the state.

First, there was a flourishing, well-organized library in DeSoto County with a hardworking board of Trustees, a community highly and effectively organized for citizen action, and a competent, qualified librarian.

Second, there was Tate County without any library service whatsoever. Not a public library in the county, not a cent being paid from public or private funds for support of library service

Third, there was Panola County with two small libraries operated by women's clubs. These had been supported and operated by the clubs at great personal sacrifice with no money from county funds and only a pittance from other sources. But there was real citizen interest and leadership.

Fourth, and after it was decided the litter would consist of only three babies, another one put in its appearance. This late arrival says, "Lafayette—we are here." Bless its little heart. It had a hard struggle to get into the world but the kind Doctor, (there is a physician on the Board) nurses and midwife just wouldn't give up. Interested citizenship zeal beat down some pretty well organized opposition—and so the fourth child becomes a member of the regional library family.

Lafayette County has a public library organized under WPA but with not enough support to give the service the people want. Now we shall see what can be done for these very earnest and intelligent people who want a good library.

With these varied and widely representative situations, the library leaders in these four counties dug in with these very helpful licks:

1. Long ago, citizens in this area set their sites high. DeSoto County studied the Mississippi Library Survey, called in leaders from neighboring counties and began thinking and working toward regional organization. It is not just coincidence that the first region occurred where the first pep meeting was held about two years ago.

2. Then, one morning, a telephone call came to the office of the Library Commission. "How can we have library service in Panola County?" For help they had turned to the organization set up by the state legislature to give just that help. The Library Commission and the local leaders worked in closest cooperation all along the way. The importance of everybody's being together from the very start cannot be overemphasized.

3. It is equally important that in the earliest stages the officials of the counties involved heard about the library for the **first** time from people who had the **right** answers. It is never too early to let them know what you are planning. Of course, you do not expect them to support the library until the people want one, but just in case any one ever mentions the library to them, this is how it works . . . etc.

The most encouraging thing about library service in this state today is the willingness on the part of County Supervisors and City Councilmen to talk of COOPERATION. Don't just arbitrarily decide: "There is no use to talk to so-and-so about a regional library. He'll never agree to that!" He may surprise you. Don't underestimate your officials. We often find the supervisors **MORE** willing to talk about a cooperative library plan than a separate one. For example, when the president of the Tate

County Board signed the contract these were his exact words: "Look here—we voted for this levy to go in with the other counties to have a **regional** library. If **they** don't sign it too, it's no go." Mr. Floyd had been shown the light. The very first people who went to the Tate County Board knew what they wanted and presented a clear and accurate picture.

And don't just decide that two towns will not cooperate because there has been rivalry between them for years. People said everywhere: "Batesville and Sardis will never cooperate on anything." How wrong can they be? There has never been any better coordination of planning, no more eagerness to give and take, and no more sincere spirit of "together we can have something worthwhile" than there is between the library workers in Sardis and Batesville. Examine local rivalry and see what it is based on. It may be a very healthy condition whose very intensity can be turned toward competition in getting good library for each place through cooperation.

The CAMPAIGN: There are three kinds of campaigns that may result in a regional library. Region Number One used them all.

First, there is the long pull wherein the very impact of **good** library service sells the idea of getting **better** library service. That was what brought DeSoto County into its regional thinking.

Then there is the well-planned, highly organized definite "battle Strategy" of educating the populace to the advantages of a library and having them in turn appeal to their supervisors. This type campaigning covers a period of several months and involves a great deal of thought and work on the part of a county-wide committee. Panola County used this strategy. General McArthur would have been proud of the way the high command there swung into action. There was a library caravan planned for every section of the county with a playlet, movie, demonstration of a bookmobile, and pot-luck dinners. (The Brunswick stew at Curtis, the chocolate pie at Courtland, the fried chicken at Hebron, and the pimento cheese at Blackjack certainly didn't **HARM** the library program any, although it did fatten the Library Commission's Field Worker out of last winter's clothes). The library was literally taken to the people in Panola County over a three months period. The people then took it to their supervisors.

The third type of campaign is the hit-quick-and-run-fast strategy employed in Tate County. An intensive drive of less than ten days, spear-headed by a small committee that went to work with petitions in every crack and crevice of the county brought over 700 signatures to the Board of Supervisors. From NO public library of any shape or kind to a one mill levy for regional participation in ten days is some kind of miracle. But it shows what can be done if a few people try hard and work fast. (By the way, the **men** helped in Tate County to a remarkable degree. They started, as men often do, with the people who pay the most taxes. Men understand figures, it seems; and they are not shocked at asking for enough to do a good job.)

Lafayette County used most every type of strategy, and then some. After some indecision and lack of knowing just what they wanted and what it would take to get it, once they made up their minds and found out about the type of service they might expect as a part of the region they really went after it in the most determined way and "never say die" was their slogan until the contract was signed.

The campaign phase of the regional library development left some firmly entrenched lessons on the minds of those of us who cut our first teeth on this project:

1. From the very start, we must allay any fears of persons who are now working in libraries. The purpose of a regional library is not to take away jobs from librarians who have worked at them long and faithfully. On the contrary, everyone is needed, and many additional librarians are needed, to put good library service into operation in the state. Region Number One has an important place for every person to fill who is now on the job anywhere in the area.

2. Officials have interest in libraries. They, too, have imagination about their possibilities. Along with that, they KNOW (sometimes even better than librarians, it seems) that we can't have something for nothing. They know that their roads were not built for peanuts. They have reasoning ability enough to know that when books cost \$2.50 a piece you can't take reading material to 2000 school children for \$25 a month.)

3. Officials want to know what their people think. They are acutely conscious of the political implications of voting a tax on the people (as they should be!). It isn't enough for 2000 people to **want** a library. Part of that 2000 have got to **tell** the supervisor they want it.

4. The key person in giving help to the library workers in every county is the attorney for the board of supervisors. When library talk first begins, give him a copy of the compilation of the library laws—the Library Commission has copies—along with a nice letter explaining what you are trying to present. He probably has never had occasion to study the library law before, but will be quite willing to do it if you make it convenient for him to do so. (The attorneys in Region One really came through for us 100% in the pinches. In fact, just one well-turned sentence from one attorney got the contract signed in that county.)

5. A study of the personalities involved is extremely important. There are certain people who fit into certain places; others do not. Sometimes the best strategy is for the field worker to appear. In other cases, it is fatal for an "outsider" to show her face. We had to be very realistic about this. People working for the library examined themselves very honestly and very frankly and stayed away if it appeared wisest for someone else to show up.

6. The library campaign is in politics. There is no evading that. Then it becomes increasingly important to recognize that fact and to act upon its full implications.

THE SHOWDOWN: Once the campaign is over (that is when the supervisors have voted the millage) all the work is by no means done. There are two more important steps: A contract to be signed by all the supervisors and a regional library board to be appointed.

The "joint action of the board of supervisors" required by law has been interpreted to mean that they may act in their own meetings upon exactly the same thing. The law further requires that there be a contract. By all means, we learned in region one, that the attorneys for the boards of supervisors are the ones who will help with the contract, work it over to appeal to their particular boards, and stand by to see that it is passed once they have participated in its drawing up. This is extremely important and no more than fair to the Boards. They depend upon their attorneys for legal counsel. And the lawyers are a great help in remembering things about contracts that librarians never think of.

In each county of the region there is a Library Board from each supervisor's beat that corresponds to the county library board. These county board members met and selected their representatives for the legal five-man Regional Library Board. This board met and formally organized the state's first Regional Library.

Four counties have literally become as one. County boundaries will no longer exist as far as library service is concerned. Governed by one board, all the existing facilities have been placed at the complete disposal of the region. All the towns are to participate in the program; all the funds are to be pooled in one depository. One librarian is to be the administrative head; her staff is to be spread into every corner of the area. Each county is bearing its proportionate share of the funds, each having given the maximum allowable by law with Panola County making up for its one-half mill limitation by a cash grant from the general fund. All the requirements for obtaining the state aid to regional libraries have been met.

The gestation period has been long; the travail was great; but the infant regional library has been born. Mississippi, like any proud parent is all aglow with pride over its first born child. Its wee, small cries bring a thrill to the hearts of all the profession in the state who dream of the day when we shall have 18 strapping, healthy regional library children romping over the state bringing library service of the highest type to every person in Mississippi.

Two New County Libraries

Jefferson Davis County, which until now has been one of the blank counties on the library map has secured an appropriation of \$6,000 from the County Board of Supervisors to begin a county library. This was one of those quiet but forceful campaigns where the right people got behind the idea and pushed it. The Women's Clubs of Prentiss took the initiative but they did not try to do the whole job alone. They called in the Rotary and other men's organizations. Mrs. Joseph McDonald, High School librarian, is due a large part of the credit for this accomplishment.

While tax funds will not be available to organize the library at once, a room has been secured in the Court House, shelves are being made and plans are on foot to open as soon as possible. As a means of keeping the library before the people the first county teachers' meeting of the year was a program on The County Library. Mrs. Eley and Miss Gralow from the Library Commission were present, the Commission bookmobile was on exhibit, a library film was shown and books from the Library Commission checked out to the teachers.

The **Simpson County** Board of Supervisors voted a one-half mill tax to begin a county library. With the one mill tax from the towns of Mendenhall and Magee the library will soon be organized on a county basis. Members of the library boards in these two towns are due the credit for getting the library started. The Director of the Library Commission went with representative citizens to the Supervisor's meeting but the groundwork was done before this time. This county is to be congratulated on the attitude of the people who worked for the library. It was a pleasure to work in a situation that apparently was free of jealousy between the two towns or between town and county. There was seemingly no motive of wanting either library to be the center or the biggest, no effort to get a lot of jobs for people, but just to get library service. The one idea in the minds of the leaders is that they are preparing to join in a larger library unit or a regional library. They realize that Simpson County alone cannot have a first rate library but such first rate people certainly may look forward to excellent library service in time.

Jackson Public Library

Miss Pearl Sneed, librarian, the staff and board of the **Jackson Public Library** are to be congratulated on the passage of the \$600,000 bond issue for the public library which will mean a new central library building, two branch libraries and a bookmobile for city service.

The Jackson Public Library has employed Mrs. Lucile Sullivan as reference librarian to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Bethany Swearingen, who is continuing her library training at Columbia University. Mrs. Martha Lang has taken the position as cataloger to replace Mrs. Sudie Johnson who resigned to take a school library position.

Hattiesburg Libraries

The Library Boards of the **Hattiesburg Public** and the **Forrest County Libraries** have voted to merge the two libraries into one system. The County Board of Supervisors have voted an appropriation of \$10,000 for their part of library support. City appropriation is around \$12,000. The merger becomes effective in January when a county librarian will be employed and bookmobile service begun.

Mr. Walter C. Watkins, native son, Rhodes scholar, etcetera, gave a series of talks on Current Fiction on six successive Tuesday evenings. Meetings were held in the **Laurel Circulating Library** as a "public service" feature of the library. Tickets were available to the public free of charge

at the library desk but, because of the popularity of the lectures, had to be limited to "first come, first served" as the seating capacity was limited to slightly more than 200. Mr. Watkins charmed his listeners with his delightful and witty talks. (He said, "Don't call them 'lectures'".)

The first of the series was entitled, *Two Mississippians*: William Faulkner and Eudora Welty. Other lectures included *Novels about Negroes*: *Strange Fruit*, *Native Son*, *Intruder in the Dust*, *Cry the Beloved Country*, etc.; *English Novelists*: George Orvell, Elizabeth Bowen, Joyce Cary, etc.; *Continental Novelists*: Alberto Moravia, Francois Boyer, Albert Camus; *New Voices in America*: Frank Buechner, William Goyen, Max Steele, Paul Bowles; *For the Traditionalists*: Edith Wharton, Thomas Mann, E. M. Forster, Somerset Maugham, J. P. Marguand.

The Laurel Circulating Library is to be congratulated on this popular method of public relations. This was certainly a pleasurable experience for the patrons of the library.

Evans Memorial Library Receives Bequest

It has just been learned that the will of the late Dr. W. A. Evans, Aberdeen, left a bequest of \$100,000.00 to the **Evans Memorial Library**. When Dr. Evans returned to his old home after many years of outstanding service to the Public Health Department of Chicago, he showed great interest in the welfare of the town and region, particularly in preserving the history of the section and in making reading available to the people. He made possible the erection of the beautiful, small public library which bears his name. The bequest makes possible continued support and growth.

Bookmobile Demonstration

The small bookmobile belonging to the Library Commission has been loaned to **Lincoln** and **Scott** County Libraries on a part-time basis this winter. Each county is demonstrating the use of the bookmobile as a means of better rural library service. During the summer **Tallahatchie** County Library used the bookmobile and is now planning to buy one.

Mississippi Library History—Traveling Libraries

Jeanne Broach sends an interesting account taken from the records of the **Meridian Fortnightly Club**, with the following comment: "The Fortnightly believes it originated the idea of Traveling Libraries in the State—even before the State Federation of Women's Clubs came into existence. The first year there was only one such library but in a few years other clubs joined the effort and there were seven or eight Traveling Libraries going their rounds and several hundred books and magazines composed them. It was probably this that made Fortnightly members so library minded and sent them into very strenuous efforts to secure a public library for Meridian and to their tenacity and to their very worthy desire and determination, perhaps, **Meridian Public Library** owes its existence. Certain it is that they were contributors to its beginning but it is my belief that they are almost wholly responsible for the founding of it.

"The first year of the Federation (1898) the Fortnightly's report showed that the Traveling Library owned 42 books and 40 magazines. Two years later there were 230 books and 250 magazines. By 1903 other clubs had joined in and there was a total of 8 Traveling Libraries and 385 books and 350 magazines. These libraries went to the small towns around the state."

Another bit of library history—notes taken from the minutes of the **Meridian Library Association**, signed by Mrs. J. C. Templeton, Secretary Pro. tem, February 11, 1911, tell of the Association's decision to ask for a Carnegie Library for Negroes as well as one for the whites. Both library buildings were erected and both have, in recent years been redecorated and modernized. The library budget has been increased, a bookmobile has been purchased and now Meridian and Lauderdale County have bookmobile service.—a modern Traveling Library.

A front page feature story in the **Pontotoc Progress** tells of the fine service Ludie Wood is giving through the **County Library**, about the summer reading program and the use of volunteer helpers. The article plugs for the need of a new roof on the library.

It seems easier to get these physical necessities before the people than the service side of libraries. However, roofs have to be put on and if we get the practical business men to look after these things, it leaves the librarian more time for "the things of the spirit".

Janice Biggers has accepted a position as **Alcorn County** bookmobile librarian. Janice had library training at M.S.C.W. and has been employed in the El Paso, Texas public library for the past two years.

Julia LeGard, who has been the Alcorn County bookmobile librarian, has resigned to take a position in a school library in Atlanta.

With appropriate ceremonies the new and beautiful **Mississippi State College library** was dedicated, along with other new college buildings, October 24, 1950.

Library Service to the Colored Race

The 1950 session of the state legislature appropriated \$7,800 for the 1950-1952 biennium to begin library service to colored people. With such a small sum it is necessary to make the best use of the funds and to place the books where they will get the most use. The first step taken in beginning this service was a conference of several negro librarians, the State Supervisor of Jeane's Teachers, Dr. P. H. Easom, State Supervisor of Negro Schools, to discuss the best plan for initiating this library. The group decided that books bought should be mostly on the elementary level, with a small collection of professional reading for teachers. It was agreed that these books would be made available first to the nine public libraries in the state having branches for colored people. Also a demonstration will be made in Rankin County colored schools. This county was selected because of their very efficient Jeane's

teacher. To date 1,558 books for this collection have been processed and more are on order. These are being sent out on request. The service was begun only a few weeks ago and already books have been sent to negro schools and branch libraries as follows: Rankin County schools, 216 books; Brookhaven School, 35 books; West Point school, 89 books; First Regional Library, 199 books; Pascagoula Branch Library, 49 books; Total of 588 books. (Pascagoula was the first public library to ask for books for the colored branch) The Rankin County Supervisor of Negro Schools brought 12 of her teachers to the Library Commission to select their books. The choice was left to them and they selected the books considered most useful to their school rooms. These schools and libraries will keep a record of circulation and use of the books so that it may be reported to the legislature at the next session.

Mississippi Library Survey Continues

The last phase of the Mississippi Library Survey—Library Training—will be conducted by Dr. Louis Shores, Dean, Florida State University Library School, and Mrs. Florinell Morton, Director, Louisiana State University Library School some time in December. Dr. Shores and Mrs. Morton will be in the state several days visiting the University, State College, M.S.C.W., Tougaloo and Mississippi Southern and conferring with each library school faculty and administrators. Mr. S. A. Brassfield and Miss Annabell Koontz from the State Department of Education will accompany them on the trip. Findings and recommendations concerning library education in the state will be made available to the public in the complete printed survey report which may be ready in the spring of 1951.

Mrs. Currier Receives Publicity Award

Mrs. Lura Currier, Field Representative with the Mississippi Library Commission was presented the John Cotton Dana Award at the A. L. A. meeting in Cleveland July, 1950. This is the annual Award for the best publicity in libraries in communities of population not over 25,000. While the award was won for work done before Mrs. Currier came to work in Mississippi we are proud of this recognition given Mrs. Currier and glad that she is in our state to help with similar publicity for our libraries. The fact that this was a small library that did such outstanding publicity in selling itself gives all small libraries the belief that they may do likewise.

The key to the successful publicity program of this particular library may likely be found in the foreword of the note book which contained the account of the library's publicity methods. The certificate of Award refers to the foreword thus:

To the MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON, PUBLIC LIBRARY, whose librarian "will talk to anybody about anything" and "will do anything to get people into the library," for a complete picture of a small library's "first toddling steps" to sell itself to the community.

After Miss Finger attended the annual A L A meeting in Cleveland July, 1950 we prevailed on her to write the following:

MY FIRST ALA MEETING

By

Mary Joan Finger, School Librarian, Clarksdale

The first ALA meeting attended is a thrilling experience! After registering and donning a badge, one suddenly feels a part of the organization which before has meant, mostly, a title to which one paid dues and from which one received publications. One becomes acquainted with faces where before there had been only names, with personalities known only "second hand". The business of the organization unfolds—what makes it go and why.

The pre-conference on Materials for School Librarians was worth a "summer school." In three days time we heard such speakers as Miss Chandes Reid from Horace Mann Institute on Materials and the Curriculum, Dr. Willard Olsen on What do we know about Children, David Dietz and Herbert Zim on Science, Dr. Brownell from Chicago on Mathematics, Dr. Harlan Hatcher on the American Scene. The exhibits of the materials discussed were on display in the assembly room.

Another interesting feature was the discussions of books of interest to teen-agers at the Young People's Division early morning sessions. Individual books as well as subject and kinds were discussed pro and con by leaders and members from the audience.

The general exhibit and meetings had so much to offer one could not possibly wedge in time for everything of interest. One of the best features was the visiting of a new city, touring the places of interest in and around Cleveland, visiting its libraries and schools, enjoying a "pops" concert.

I shall have to go back another time to attend the Newberry, Caldecott dinner for which I failed to get a ticket! (But I did meet Mr. Politi at a bookstore and came away with a beautifully autographed book)

Southeastern Library Association Meeting

Atlanta, October 11-14, 1950

Reported by Laura Currier
Southeastern was nice!

There must be something more original, or dynamic, or even startling, that one could say about a conference than that. But it is hard to get into words the real value of a library meeting like the Southeastern Library Association. There is the inspiration, the one-ness of feeling with hundreds of people working together on the same problems, and then the all important realization that we do not have ALL the library troubles. Most important of all, there is the courage of the combined southeastern librarians as they roll up their sleeves and tackle the almost insurmountable task of giving GOOD library service under such financial and professional odds as we all face.

Reporting on a four day meeting leaves a group of delegates in the same position as the five blind men who examined the elephant and came up with some widely divergent conceptions of what he was like. Some high spots of the conference to this particular reporter, from her necessarily limited view of the whole meeting, were:

1. In the County and Regional librarians section on Wednesday afternoon there were reports from each of the nine southeastern states. These reviews of the past two years work were thrilling in their increased local appropriations, their new libraries, their larger units of organization, the growth of interest in library service to negroes, and the great increases in state aid to public libraries. Georgia has us all envious with her large budget for state-wide development of libraries. It made the Mississippi delegation pop-eyed to hear Georgia and Arkansas talk of their appropriations for state-aid; and to hear that North Carolina now has 92% library coverage.

2. The comparison and contrasts of the Public Library Inquiry Report with the Wilson survey of "libraries in the southeast" was thought provoking. It was interesting to re-examine what Dr. Wilson regards as the greatest library problems in the southeast. Most of us know what they are; most of us have known for a long time. Nevertheless, it does help to have them discussed and to see what reactions others have to these problems, and to see how other states are trying to solve them. The inevitable question arose that keeps librarians awake nights: Is it better to take the little amount of money we have and give **better service** where there are libraries, or spread ourselves thinner and thinner to cover, but meagerly, the vast numbers of people in our region with no library service at all?

3. In the principal address of the opening session, Dr. Allen D. Albert, Jr., professor of sociology, Emory University, reviewed very forcefully the changing conditions in the south today and pointed out the function of materials of information in the growth that these changes imply.

4. How much we wished for every librarian in Mississippi as we listened to the lively debate between two librarians on the subject of "Libraries—Books or Gadgets". John Banister of Florida insisted that we didn't have money enough, that we didn't have training and talent enough, and that we didn't really have any business getting into the film business, audio-visual matters, and television showings. His principal thesis was that books were our business and that we need our time and facilities to present them to our public. His opponent, Hoyt Galvin of Charlotte, N. C., answered back that such an attitude reflected refusal to change with the times; he insisted that libraries **SHOULD** furnish all these things and that librarians who failed to do so were not keeping in step. Rebutals on each side brought much snappy repartee. The audience enjoyed the argument and came away with some provoking thoughts, we felt, on the subject of "Do Public Libraries Attempt Too Much?"

5. If the conference had to have a high water mark (and I guess every one does) it was most certainly, at least to a field worker who visits libraries constantly, the trips to the beautiful new branch libraries in Atlanta. And what branches they are! The last word in modernity, they are beautiful, colorful— and what's more, they are crowded with people using them. The loveliest of all was the Negro branch. It had everything from the latest Frank Lloyd Wrightish lines in architecture to scores of people checking out books (good up-to-date books; not discards from some outworn library shelves) and a highly trained and skillful librarian. Few of us will forget the little colored boy's face who sat the whole time we were there viewing in openeyed wonder and complete concentration the television screen over in one corner of the room. And what wonders John Settlemyer, Atlanta librarian, is doing with the old Carnegie building which he is remodeling for the main downtown library. "A library is like a store," he told us, as he pointed out the revolutionary things that were being done to the building. "We have something to sell and we are going to display it the best possible way." We were hardly ready for the pleased shock that came when he explained that the books were to be checked out at the circulation desk to the tune of soft chamber music. That we should have lived so long!

6. Mississippi swelled with pride in our own Augusta Richardson. She certainly did us up grand in her masterly handling of the long and animated, and at times, heated, discussion over the adoption of the new constitution. (This is the year, you recall, that Southeastern becomes a cohesive, complete organization of its own rather than the loose federation of state associations that it has been). Mrs. Richardson was on the Activities Committee which worked out the entire reorganization structure and she served as Chairman of the Constitution Committee. It is good that Mississippi has had such an important part in the formation of what is certain to be a strong and forceful organization for libraries throughout the region.

7. We were proud, again, of our Don Thompson who was a participant on the program of College and University Libraries section. With leading college librarians throughout the region, Mr. Thompson discussed "Developing College Library Service." Too bad that he couldn't have taken the beautiful new State College Library with him to Atlanta to show what a fine plant he has to develop college library service in.

8. One of the most serious attendants at the conference was Jackson Public's Librarian, Miss Pearl Sneed, who had a special conference with Mr. Settlemyer to examine details of his new construction. When Jackson's new building program gets underway, Miss Sneed's careful planning and earnest study of good set-ups like Atlanta will mean for Mississippi the best in its Capitol's library buildings.

9. Samuel Gillard Stoney's "Gullah Readings" certainly took down the house at the banquet. And they left many of us with a renewed respect for the folklore that lies within our very boundaries. Librarians were reminded of the great possibilities in developing the literature and

the interest in our own primitive peoples and in projecting our local color into the national scene.

10. No review of a library conference could be complete without some reference to the remarkable manner in which librarians work on the democratic process. John Cory, Executive Secretary of the American Library Association, said to this reporter at the meeting: "I never cease to wonder and to marvel at the amount of time that librarians are willing to spend on the constitutional matters that concern their organization and on the professional matters that affect their jobs." And how right he is. And how good that it is so. If the leaders of our country are worried for fear that there is a dangerous lethargy among people and that they are willing to be lead into anything by their leaders, they should attend a library conference. Motions are tabled, propositions are voted down with loud and enthusiastic "No's" and every circumstance (sometimes every word) is examined in great detail. Librarians are jealous of their democratic right to think and express their thoughts. And they do!

The following Mississippi librarians attended the conference:

Eleanor Harkins, Delta State Library
Maria Person, Gulfport-Harrison County Library
Mary Alice Hatchett, Clarksdale Public Library
Mary Moore Mitchell, Lee County Library
Jeanne Broach, Meridian Public Library
Augusta Richardson, Alcorn County Library
Donald Thompson, State College Library
Martha Cauty, Mississippi Library Commission
Elenora Gralow, Mississippi Library Commission
Lura Currier, Mississippi Library Commission

Dr. Louis Shores, Dean, School of Library Training and Service, Florida State University, was elected president of SELA.

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The annual session of MLA met at the Buena Vista Hotel in Biloxi October 26-28, 1950. The attendance, verbal expressions and the sparkle in the eyes of those present all said, "This was a superb meeting of MLA." Meetings began and ended on time, speakers stuck to the point, had something to say, and stopped when they had said it. In fact, one began to suspect that some careful planning had gone on before hand and that assignments were made and carried out. There was a general feeling of appreciation for the leadership of the President, Don Thompson, and for the management of the local committee with Maria Person as Chairman.

The new Hurricane Room was a delightful place for the meeting, the exhibit place seemed ideal, the exhibits were attractive and the exhibitors were genial and helped make the meeting a success, in more ways than one.

After registration on Thursday evening the boat ride to Ship Island was a perfect beginning. There was moonlight, good fellowship and good food. This, in addition to the splendid talk on Gulf Coast Legends by Mr. George Thatcher.

On Friday morning Dr. Louis Shores, was the moderator of a panel discussion on library topics. After introductions Dr. Shores spoke of the Mississippi Library Survey and its direction in our state planning, then he introduced members of the panel.

Jeanne Broach discussed library education in Mississippi. She said it is customary to think of library training agencies in the state as training only for school librarians but that the schools need to emphasize training for other types of library service also. She reported that 9 out of 15 institutions of higher learning in the state offer at least one course in library science but only two schools give a full year's work with an undergraduate major in library science—M.S.C.W. and Mississippi Southern. Tougaloo College is accredited for training negro students. The University offers 24 hours but only as electives. Five schools offer 6 to 15 hours of library science but do not give a major. Mississippi has no graduate school of library science.

Miss Broach spoke of the urgent need for more trained librarians and said that one of the solutions to the problem would be state grants for graduate library scholarships. These scholarships would require students to return to work in the state for a certain period of time and would be much less expensive than establishing a graduate library school.

Manie Berry discussed methods of school and public library coordination in the several states. She spoke of the need of high professional standards for school and public libraries and of the possibility of a professional school librarian working with all the schools on the regional library plan. She paid tribute to the book salesman and his service to the librarian.

Anona Jenkins emphasized the need for more and better libraries for negroes and told of the negro branch library in Clarksdale, one of the best in the state, but still very inadequate. She stressed the need for trained negro librarians.

Sykes Hartin reported on a meeting of library representatives held in Jackson last spring to discuss better library cooperation and the possibility of organizing a Library Council.

Lura Currier discussed methods of better library service through the union catalog and bibliographic center. By charts and posters she told of these methods and how the small library would benefit by having access to the pooled resources of a state or region. She described the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center which she had access to in Washington State and of the great number of books that were exchanged between libraries in the region. She emphasized the need for combining resources and for saving duplications when book budgets are small.

Dr. Shores summarized the discussion and pertinent questions from the floor followed.

At noon the Citizen's Library luncheon was well attended, though it was hard to find the citizens and trustees as librarians were in the majority. Library trustees were present from the following libraries: Gulfport, Moss Point, Copiah County. Pascagoula. Elizabeth Wise, on the Executive Committee of CLM, presided. Eunice Eley told of recent progress made in library development in the state and mentioned those who are responsible for library progress in several counties. Mrs. Eley commended Miss Elizabeth Robinson, the first secretary of the Library Commission, for her contribution to the beginning of library service in the state. She said the state would always owe Miss Robinson a debt of gratitude for her contributions and efforts when libraries were little known and legislative support was small.

The luncheon speaker was Dr. Shores who talked on The Responsibility of the Community for Library Service. He drew a very vivid picture of the lack of informational material in a critical period of our history and said books are a necessity in a democracy.

At the business session the Secretary-Treasurer reported a balance of \$678.94 in the treasury.

Printed reports of standing committees were given out.

Gertrude Rowzee, chairman of the Constitutional Committee presented suggestions for changes in the constitution, article 1, Sect. 5. This change which was adopted allows members of MLA committees, both standing and special committees, to receive expenses for attending committee meetings. Article 1, Section 6 was amended to allow expenses for members of the executive board while attending board meetings or the annual session.

Elizabeth Jones, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the name of Alice Collins for secretary. The nomination was approved.

The new constitution of the Southeastern Library Association was read and adopted.

Resolutions were read by Ada Holiday, Chairman of the Committee.

The Tuscaloosa Library Bindery delivered prizes to the holders of the winning tickets which were previously drawn by members. Winners were Mrs. Kenneth Gatchel, M.S.C.W. Library School and Mrs. Mary Magee, Mississippi Southern library.

Dr. W. D. McCain discussed the report and recommendations of the library subcommittee of the Legislative Reorganization Committee. Dr. McCain analyzed the recommendations in detail showing that if this

reorganization were put into effect it would retard and hamper library service in all of the state agencies. He showed that those who made the recommendation to reduce the number of employees of the State Library, the Department or Archives and History and the Library Commission from 22 to 12 have very little conception of the purpose or operation of these libraries. He said the Bureau of Public Administration at the University of Mississippi, which is acting as consultant to the legislative committee, is not in a position to make recommendations regarding the operation of all state departments and that some members of the Bureau and of the legislative committee have never visited the libraries that they are proposing to reorganize. These library departments have had all too little financial support and now that they are beginning to function in a somewhat better way it would be tragic to set them back by this proposed plan.

The speaker for the book dinner Friday evening was Dr. W. Stanley Hoole, Librarian, University of Alabama. His subject was Frontier Humor of the Old Southwest. In a very charming and entertaining way he discussed and gave examples of humor in the early life of this area.

On Saturday morning the three sections—School, College and Public Libraries, which were scheduled to meet separately, agreed to have a joint meeting so that all members might hear the three speakers. After the meeting it was the unanimous agreement that each group would have suffered a great loss by not hearing all three talks.

Dr. Hoole said that he had been asked to make his talk to the college librarians inspirational and it was certainly a most inspiring address. Dr. Shores asked for the address to be used in the first issue of the Southeastern Library Journal. All who heard it will eagerly wait to see it in print.

Dr. Shores spoke on Library Education and gave some facts about library schools and information about the ALA and Southeastern Standards Committee and their plans to re-evaluate library training agencies.

Mrs Richard Stephenson from Louisiana State University Library School (Shirley Knowles), was invited to speak to the County and Public Library Section. Mrs Stephenson's subject was: The Library Patron, Our Center of Interest. In keeping with the theme of the Convention, "Coordination of Library Services", she spoke of two fields of library activity, the school library and the public library, as finally converging in the library patron, who is one and the same person.

She said that both the school and the public library are educational institutions, both must be considered such and each has a responsibility for the development of an enlightened, informed citizenry able to cope with the problems of modern life. She stressed the need for the librarians' understanding and guidance in reading and said that the close cooperation

of school and public library should bring to the reader more and better resources and develop the reading habit which is continued through life.

After these three very informative and stimulating talks the annual session of MLA was adjourned by the president.

There were 114 who registered.

The following report distributed to those present at the MLA meeting seems important for all members to read and study carefully, in view of the fact that the Committee is submitting these recommendations for future consideration and adoption.

Report to Mississippi Library Association, 1949-1950

From Standards For Libraries and Planning Committee

The "Standards for Libraries and Planning Committee" of the Mississippi Library Association has had no formal meeting since October 1949, at which time it was voted by this committee to support the recommendations made by the Mississippi Library Survey. Some of these recommendations were in regard to changes to be made in the laws of Mississippi concerning libraries in general and the Library Commission in particular. This committee also voted at that time to recommend to the Library Association that the entire report and recommendations of the Mississippi Library Survey be adopted as the goal of the Association.

Though it was not considered an official meeting of the "Standards for Libraries and Planning Committee", five members of this committee did meet at the Library Commission in Jackson in April, 1950, with representatives from senior and junior colleges, special libraries, public libraries, and school libraries on the invitation of Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Library Survey Director. Consultants were Dr. A. F. Kuhlman, Director, Joint University Libraries, Nashville, and Ralph T. Esterquest, Director, Midwest Inter-Library Center, Chicago. The subjects discussed were library cooperation and library education. The need for a Union Catalog were brought out. Dr. Kuhlman suggested the organization of a Mississippi Library Council. This suggestion was approved and Don Thompson, Librarian at State College, was appointed temporary chairman to get this organization started. It was agreed that since the objectives of the Mississippi Library Council and the Standards for Libraries and Planning Committee were so similar, the two should work together to bring about these objectives.

Members of this committee have been working on plans to set up minimum standards for Public Libraries in Mississippi, using the book *POST WAR STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES as a guide. No workable standards have been agreed upon as yet. However, we would like to submit the following suggestions as a starter for Minimum Standards for Public Libraries of Mississippi:

- I. BASIC OBJECTIVES: Education, information, aesthetic appreciation, research and recreation (Taken from "Post War Standards for Public Libraries")
- II. ADMINISTRATION:
- Class A. At least one professionally trained librarian, one full time assistant, and one full time clerical assistant
- Class B. At least one librarian with some college education and training in library techniques, one part-time ass't.
- Class C. At least one librarian with a high school education.
- III. FINANCE:
- Class A. Income of not less than \$12,000.00 a year
- Class B. Income of not less than \$6,000.00 a year
- Class C. Income of not less than 25¢ per capita
- IV. BOOKS OWNED:
- Class A. 2 books per capita for population up to 10,000, with a minimum collection of 5,000 books, 1/3 of this number to be children's books and 30% of the adult collection to be non-fiction
- 1½ books per capita for population from 10,000 to 35,000, 1/3 of this number to be children's books and 40% of the adult collection to be non-fiction
- 1 book per capita for population above 35,000, 1/3 of this number to be children's books and 50% of the adult collection to be non-fiction
- Class B 1 book per capita for population up to 10,000, with a minimum collection of 2,500 books, 1/3 of this number to be children's books and 20% of the adult collection to be non-fiction
- ½ book per capita for population above 10,000, with a minimum collection of 3,000 books, 1/3 of this number to be children's books and 20% of the adult collection to be non-fiction.
- Class C. A minimum collection of 1,000 books, ¼ of this number to be children's books and 20% of the adult collection to be non-fiction.

**V. REGISTERED
BORROWERS:**

Class A. 20% of the total white population and, if there is a Negro Branch, at least 5% of the negro population
Class B. 15% of the total white population and, if there is a Negro Branch, at least 2% of the negro population
Class C. 10% of the total white population.

Anona Jenkins, Chairman
Maria Person
Donald Thompson
Elizabeth Brown
Dr. W. D. McCain
Mrs. Martha Lang
Lucile Miller

Join Mississippi Library Association

Miss Alice R. Collins, Box 243, University, Mississippi, is secretary-treasurer of the Association and will be glad to accept membership dues. Dues are \$1.00 per year. The Association year is the same as the calendar year—January through December. Miss Collins says dues may be paid now for 1951.

All paid members of MLA are placed on the mailing list of Library News.

"BOOKS BY MAIL"**Professional reading for the librarian and trustee**

Compiled by Martha Couty, Reference Librarian

(These books may be borrowed from the Mississippi Library Commission)
Alexander, Carter, and Burke, Arvid J.

How to locate educational information and data; an aid to quick utilization of the literature of education. 3d ed. Columbia university, 1950.

Organized largely as a reference book for education students and research workers in education. Contains such topics as suggestions for library searching, procedures, locating books outside the library, reference books, publications of educational associations, government documents, and statistical methodology.

American Library Association. Committee on library architecture and building planning

Buildings for small public libraries, remodeled and adapted, including new designs for branches, prepared by Ernest I. Miller. American library association, 1950.

American library association. Committee on post-war planning

A national plan for public library service; prepared by Carleton B. Joeckel and Amy Winslow. A. L. A., 1948.

Standards and recommendations for public library development

Basic book collection for junior high schools. A. L. A., 1950.

Classified list of recommended books

Basic book collection for high schools. A. L. A., 1950.

Classified list of recommended books

Berelson, Bernard

The library's public. Columbia university press, 1949.

A study of the amount and kind of use people make of the public library, and changes and extension of library service people would prefer. Public Library Inquiry.

California. University

Reaching readers; papers presented at the Library Institute, and edited by Carleton B. Joeckel. University of California press, 1949.

"Techniques of extending library services"

Douglas, Teresa Peacock

Teacher-librarian's handbook. 2nd ed. American library association, 1950.

"Surveys the work of the teacher-librarian, beginning with a statement of standards and covering briefly the selection and organization of the book collection and nonbook materials, equipment, and publicity."

Fay, Adra M.

Supervising library personnel. American Library Association, \$0.50

"A handy compilation of the highlights of good supervision which is sufficiently general that it can be used by almost any large or medium-sized library."

Florida Library Association

Libraries in Florida; a survey of library opportunities in the state. Florida Library Association, 1948.

Garceau, Oliver

The public library in the political process. Columbia university press, 1949.

Discusses the political factors affecting the public library, including the role of the federal government, library board, county, state and local governing boards, and citizen organizations. Part of the Public Library Inquiry.

Hall, Anna Gertrude

The library trustee. American library association, 1937

Discussion of such subjects as the powers of the library board, operation of the library, its money and staff, and the place of the trustee in the community.

Lawler, John

H. W. Wilson company; half a century of bibliographic publishing. University of Minnesota press, 1950.

"The origin and growth of the H. W. Wilson Company, from its very humble beginnings to its position as outstanding publisher of indexes and other library tools."

Leigh, Robert Devore

The public library in the United States; the general report of the Public library Inquiry. Columbia university press, 1950.

"A summary of the total findings of the inquiry, an analytical interpretation of them, and conclusions and recommendations for further development." Includes such subjects as the personal characteristics of librarians, public relations, direction of development.

McCamy, James Lucian

Government publications for the citizen. Columbia university press, 1949.

"Survey of the scope and present machinery for the publication and distribution of government information to the general reader." The part the public library should play in the dispersion of information. Public Library Inquiry.

Matson, Charlotte

Books for tired eyes. 4th ed. American library association, 1950.

Lists books for adults and children. A reading and a buying list of books printed in large type.

Michigan. University. Social research center

Public use of the library and other sources of information. University of Michigan, 1950.

An abbreviated statement of the more important data provided by a national sample survey of public library use, made for the Public Library Inquiry. with emphasis on factual reporting rather than on interpretation.

Munson, Amelia

An ample field; books and young people. American library association, 1950.

"A book about young people's reading, with intriguing marginal heads, apt quotations and an informal style."

North Carolina Library association

Libraries in North Carolina; a survey, 1946-1947, by Marjorie Beal. North Carolina Library Association, 1948.

Norvell, George W.

The reading interests of young people. D. C. Heath, 1950.

Factors affecting children's reading, with lists of titles under subjects, arranged in order of popularity with boys and girls.

Southeastern Library Association

Libraries of the Southeast; edited by Louis R. Wilson and Marion A. Milczewski. University of North Carolina press, 1949.

Report of a survey of libraries in the nine states comprising the Southeastern Library Association.

U. S. Bureau of labor statistics

Economic status of library personnel, 1949. American library association, 1950.

"Report of the earnings and working conditions of library employees."

Waldron, Gloria

The information film. Columbia university press, 1949.

Survey of non-theatrical and informational films, and the place of the public library in their distribution and use. Part of the Public Library Inquiry.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1949-1950

SENIOR COLLEGES

NAME	Librarian	Staff Full Time	Part Time	Student Enrollment	Book Stock	Circulation & Use (Home Use) (Reserves)	Salaries	Expenditures Books & Per.	Total All Expenses
Belhaven College	Mary Agnes Anderson	1		196	20,634	3,576	4,903	2,500.00	2,394.53
Blue Mountain	Lucy Lamb	1		280	19,076	2,800	3,337	1,771.60	1,599.04
Delta State	Eleanor Harkins	2	2	891	25,641	13,170	6,141	10,500.00	5,146.34
Jackson College	Ernestine Lipscomb	5		1,727	13,748	46,745	35,944	10,438.16	5,705.48
Millsaps College	Mary Jane Knight	2	2	1,335	24,971	13,977	5,388		3,958.96
Mississippi College	Mrs. Claudia S. Landrum	2	1	1,354	40,348	19,422	8,322	7,050.00	5,768.88
Mississippi Southern	Anna Roberts	5	1	4,815	41,418	29,987	34,417	16,450.00	16,779.11
M.S.C.W.	Beulah Culbertson	4	3	993	81,734	28,282	37,954	18,336.66	6,912.31
Mississippi State	Donald Thompson	19	1½	4,898	139,203	21,704	14,188	45,650.17	42,526.54
Tougaloo	Zenobia Coleman	3		605	20,922	10,418	12,293	5,920.00	1,412.00
University	J. S. Hartin	19		3,796	151,519	68,052	30,978	44,349.61	31,027.42
Total		63	9½	20,890	579,214	258,133	193,865	162,966.20	123,230.61
									346,878.58

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JUNIOR COLLEGES

Name-Location	Librarian	Staff	Enrollment	Book Stock	Circulation & Use Home Use Reserves & Reference	Salaries	Expenditures Books & Per.	Total All Expenses
All Saints, Vicksburg	Mrs. Josephene Alexander							
Chamberlain Hunt, Port Gibson								
Copiah-Lincoln, Wesson	Mrs. Eugene Farr	1	459	4,125		1,800.00	607.14	3,040.72
Clarke Memorial, Newton	Ethel Burton	1	230	6,883	4,418	2,350.00	1,411.98	4,241.98
East Central, Decatur	Sadie M. Nix							
East Miss., Scooba	Dorothy Mildren	1		6,785	3,111	387	673.99	834.70
Gulf Park, Gulfport	Humphry Olsen							
Harrison-Stone, Perkinson	Mrs. Gertrude Rowzee							
Hinds-Raymond	Mrs. Billie Montague	1	406	6,864	2,363	1,121	754.03	2,600.00
Holmes, Goodman	Mrs. Minnie S. Deaton	1	435	4,254	7,928	7,553	999.90	4,073.00
Itawamba, Fulton	Mattie Mae Viverette	1	677	16,983	24,154	2,950	1,997.33	4,992.47
Jones-Ellisville	Ada Holiday							
Meridian, Meridian								
North East, Booneville	Mrs. G. E. Gully	1	356	3,104	3,612	1,861	484.35	2,799.80
Northwest, Senatobia								
Pearl River, Poplarville	Geraldine Stockstill	1	275	4,489	1,903	2,350.00	500.00	3,000.00
Southwest, Summit	Virginia M. Riggs	1	400	6,114	5,951	(No Summer Record) 2,000.00	918.77	2,947.39
Sunflower, Moorehead	Ralph L. Doane	1	139	6,767	18,254	5,374	394.81	1,588.67
Wood, Mathiston						500.00		
Total			3,379	66,368	71,694	22,361	8,742.30	30,118.93

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Public Libraries

County	Location	Receipts		Salaries	Expenditures		Books Owned	Circulation	Borrowers
		Tax Funds (City & County)	Total (Incl. gifts, etc.)		Books & Periodicals	Total			
Adams	Natchez	\$ 8,550.00	\$ 9,243.58	\$ 3,446.08	\$ 2,681.02	\$ 7,318.68	8,525	31,607	3,372
Alcorn	Corinth	6,607.16	9,237.56	6,071.10	1,430.07	9,235.56	20,130	140,621	9,500
Attala	Kosciusko	5,420.00	5,569.00	3,600.00	1,220.00	5,569.00	5,533	33,348	5,629
Chickasaw	Houston	700.00	894.93	510.00	231.75	894.93	3,334	5,091	285
Chickasaw	Okolona	800.00	835.00	600.00	264.62	867.37	6,977	6,533	388
Claiborne	Port Gibson	720.00	787.08	387.50	278.61	725.72	8,256	3,177	475
Clay	West Point	4,200.00	4,285.00	2,451.00	1,761.20	5,333.45	8,300	24,961	1,050
Coahoma	Clarksdale	27,517.25	29,462.83	13,291.00	5,326.05	25,481.08	52,274	132,883	6,920
Copiah	Hazlehurst	No Report							
Copiah	Crystal Springs	1,020.00		1,020.00		1,216.05		13,385	387
DeSoto	Hernando	6,439.74	7,080.64	5,526.50	1,034.33	7,080.64	5,460	28,070	
Forrest	Hattiesburg	11,478.95	13,478.15	10,939.92	5,298.59	18,947.54	35,760	81,834	4,374
Forrest	Forrest County	5,000.00	5,000.00			5,000.00	6,720	25,062	
George	Lucedale	1,072.00	1,072.00	972.00	100.00	1,072.00		12,218	219
Grenada	Grenada	3,999.84	5,072.48	2,985.90	1,175.13	5,032.31	11,042	68,598	3,651
Hancock	Bay St. Louis	1,265.00	1,598.11	1,230.00	256.15	1,595.49	7,251	6,879	1,132
Harrison	Gulfport	16,300.00	17,686.65	8,820.00	6,030.42	17,544.66	38,472	121,157	7,645
Hinds	Jackson	36,000.00	39,054.21	22,861.90	11,963.89	38,471.32	39,365	163,551	16,952
Hinds	Raymond	13,500.00	14,277.81	10,132.35	2,793.40	14,141.11	15,576	158,426	7,624

County	Location	Receipts		Expenditures		Total	Books & Per.	Total	Books Owned	Circulation	Borrowers
		Tax Funds	Total	Salaries	Books & Per.						
Holmes	Durant	5,100.00	5,274.31	3,024.00	1,339.43	3,278.93		12,772	31,487	1,429	
Jackson	Pascagoula	7,263.51	7,363.63	2,571.00	1,255.23	7,263.15		4,678	29,251	1,498	
Jones	Laurel Circulating	3,550.00	9,116.43	4,190.00	2,697.95	7,723.04		44,335	71,614		
Jones	Lauren Rogers Mem.	2,600.04	3,788.37	2,636.00	500.00	7,599.80		13,217	Reference Only		
Lafayette	Oxford	780.00	912.85	600.00	128.00	796.50		3,301	9,986	820	
Lauderdale	Meridian	24,404.85	29,549.33	13,498.79	6,145.50	26,467.26		48,609	89,847	7,526	
Leake	No Report										
Lee	Tupelo	10,612.19	14,576.19	7,142.35	2,339.41	16,563.76		14,357	232,069	12,762	
Leflore	Greenwood	No Report		2,580.00	2,073.65	5,973.02		7,995	26,698	2,127	
Lincoln	Brookhaven	6,375.00	6,650.46	1,267.90	1,010.21	3,264.59		8,922	23,213	2,472	
Lowndes	Columbus	2,625.00	3,018.05	1,200.00	489.70	2,199.74		8,086	12,984	4,613	
Madison	Canton	1,920.00	2,158.16	1,200.00	484.71	2,157.54		5,845	23,519	1,555	
Marion	Columbia	1,100.00	1,928.00	1,200.00							
Marshall	Holly Springs	No Report									
Monroe	Aberdeen	2,985.19	3,514.34	2,631.50	869.60	4,249.71		18,382	33,221	3,257	
Monroe	Monroe County	1,900.00	1,984.90	1,200.00	460.32	1,945.42		6,875	124,438	6,233	
Montgomery	Winona	720.00	1,170.00	840.00	364.46	1,204.46				514	
Neshoba	Philadelphia	1,200.00	1,254.08	820.00	300.00	1,438.00		3,524	15,846	1,447	
Newton	Newton	2,000.00	2,046.75	1,019.50	576.52	1,851.96		4,567	10,136	593	
Noxubee	Macon	1,560.00	1,968.00	1,340.00	547.00	1,960.00		10,414	6,223	1,110	
Oktibbeha	Starkville	624.00	624.79	420.00	183.24	624.79		6,773	4,992	2,049	
Pearl River	Picayune	1,650.00	1,991.71	1,015.00	729.90	1,945.57				15,870	

County	Location	Receipts		Expenditures		Total	Books & Per.	Total	Books Owned	Circulation	Borrowers
		Tax Funds	Total	Salaries	Books						
Pearl River	Poplarville	750.00	975.00	450.00	185.00	975.00		13,394			725
Pike	McComb	1,500.00	2,740.00	1,437.00	846.68	2,397.08		13,547	13,547	17,601	3,540
Pontotoc	Pontotoc	3,090.06	3,140.00	1,415.50	971.73	2,626.58		3,659	3,659	16,782	1,632
Prentiss	Booneville	100.00	390.00	180.00	100.00	580.00		1,550	1,550	1,675	60
Quitman	Marks	370.00	542.00	164.00		514.42		3,223	3,223	2,575	
Scott	Forest	3,980.00	5,955.08	1,740.00	1,821.00	4,689.40		4,223	4,223	88,485	4,002
Simpson	Magee	1,200.00	1,315.22	900.00	261.41	1,259.00		1,897	1,897	12,209	888
Simpson	Mendenhall	300.00	389.50	300.00	83.50	389.50		1,308	1,308	2,429	232
Sunflower	Ruleville	7,258.00	8,484.56	5,120.00	1,319.10	7,493.10		8,618	8,618	63,991	2,923
Tallahatchie	Charleston	6,809.33	7,282.85	3,093.00	2,574.06	5,460.00		7,292	7,292	28,818	
Union	New Albany	4,320.00	4,505.59	2,571.00	1,639.58	3,600.00		11,336	11,336	84,280	3,660
Walthall	Tylertown	705	712.79	480.00		607.44		3,717	3,717	8,964	
Warren	Vicksburg	9,720.00	12,492.40	9,060.00	1,766.02	12,438.35		33,552	33,552	51,038	14,672
Washington	Greenville	17,794.13	20,599.42	9,065.95	3,177.33	14,995.23		18,451	18,451	67,286	6,962
Washington	Leland	1,392.00	1,607.00	900.00	207.00	1,568.05		5,062	5,062	8,487	623
Winston	Louisville	1,576.00	1,808.05	660.00	576.82	1,816.10		19,793	19,793	36,328	2,597
Yazoo	Yazoo City	3,300.00	6,698.73	3,300.00	1,234.28	5,935.62		639,852	639,852	2,323,665	1,623
Total		294,424.18	343,163.58	184,877.74	81,104.07	331,364.02					163,547

The above figures include service to negroes through branch libraries as follows:

No. Books In Branch		Circulation	
Aberdeen	1,925	7,868	
Clarksdale		7,269	
Corinth	2,500	5,467	
Greenville	2,000	11,457	
Gulfport			
Hattiesburg	2,396	13,030	
Jackson			
Meridian	1,055	4,016	
Pascagoula	9,876	49,107	
Total	31		

ANNUAL REPORTS—THE STORY THEY TELL

When we sit down to study each report and to add its record to those of all others in the state there are certain impressions and conclusions that the reports bring to us, such as:

We greatly appreciate the prompt response of most librarians in sending in the reports on time—only a very few were late. Senior college librarians are especially to be commended in returning reports promptly. What a joy it is to be able to sit down and study and compile the reports on the day set aside for this work and not have to leave the work unfinished because some reports are not in.

I. Regarding **Senior College and University Libraries**—Library finances, numbers of professional staff members, number of books owned and circulated are certainly on the increase as shown by the following table:

	Libraries	Libraries	Enroll-	Volume	Salaries	Expendi-	Books &	Budget
		Reporting	ment			tures	Peri-	
							odicals	
1935-1936	10	8	5,108	237,262	\$ 22,150.00	\$ 15,487.14		\$ 61,902.70
1939-1940	10	9	7,285	300,322		\$ 28,146.03		\$ 41,005.44
1949-1950	12	11	20,890	579,214	126,966.20	123,230.61		346,878.58

II. **Junior College Libraries**—Three new Junior Colleges established within recent years—For white students at Fulton and Booneville; for negro students at Clarksdale.

Reports give evidence of the general scarcity of librarians. Some colleges have been able to keep the same librarian for several years but a large percentage of the 19 state supported and private Junior Colleges have had changes in library personnel each year and some college library positions remain vacant.

III. Public Libraries—

Certainly more libraries are reporting than was true a few years ago. The number of professionally trained librarians has increased. Library income and services have greatly increased. A far greater percentage of income is from tax funds and not from chance donations and gifts. Some librarians and citizen groups have worked hard to bring about higher standard library service. The following table shows comparative increases:

	Volumes	Circulation	Income
1936	285,938	930,620	\$ 40,761.63
1944	527,934	1,424,376	\$122,617.05
1950	639,852	2,323,665	\$163,547.00

Some other facts, not so pleasant to contemplate are:

1. Some libraries remain in the low-income, low-service group year after year and year after year.

2. There is evidence, in public library reports, of a great need for more uniform and standard practices in three fields of library administration.

These are—

Counting Circulation

Registering borrowers

Weeding and Discarding

We feel sure that all libraries want only to report a true picture of their library service but the records show very clearly that all libraries are not interpreting these activities alike. We believe that many **circulation figures are too high** and that many **registered borrowers figures are too low**. When some of the largest libraries with professional staffs, good book collections and long hours have a circulation record of 3 or 4 times their book collection, and other small libraries with small collections, small staff and shorter hours have a circulation record of 10 to 20 times their book collection it does seem that there is reason to believe the same method of counting circulation has not been used. In some cases the large circulation is reported where the registered borrowers is low. These are practices which need study and uniform interpretation.

We as librarians need to remind ourselves that circulation figures are not the only measure of library service, indeed it is only one standard of measurement. Reference service, telephone service, children's story hour, radio talks, club program planning, and other public relations are items that take many hours of time and do not get into the record. Did we slip and say they "do not get into the record?" If so, we were wrong. Certainly these services tell their own story and the library that gives these services is alive and growing while the library that only "checks out books" has little to offer in the present and nothing to promise for the future.

Regarding book discarding, we need to begin to value books by their use, not by their numbers. We are only cheating ourselves and our patrons when we report large book stocks of old and often times worn and useless books. How much more attractive and useful some libraries would be if they had a third less books that are two thirds more useful. Let's don't be afraid to discard—Books wear out and go out of style just as clothes do.

An offer. The Library Commission is glad to assist libraries in weeding their libraries and discarding books that are no longer useful.

Please, just one warning!

Don't, in the name of library service and in the name of a spirit of good fellowship, **don't give the discarded books to negro schools**, or to any school.

Why do we expect the people who have not had advantage of books and good reading to want to begin on books that are dirty, uninteresting and unattractive? Isn't it reasonable to suppose that they will need clean, pretty books to interest them in reading? "But," you say, "the schools want them". No, they don't want them. They know that they need books but they don't know how worthless the ones you are giving them are—and maybe they haven't seen any good books. Wouldn't you like for their introduction to books to be more pleasant and wouldn't you hate to think that **you** gave them their only association with books and that the association was distasteful, and—a point to remember in giving discards to white and colored schools—The school accepts them and counts them as the required **number** they should have. Then the school doesn't have to spend money on the library and can spend more on athletics—then "the children are cheated"—and who helped to cheat them? Was it you?

And about accepting donated books,

Haven't you heard that every library should have a front and a back door? The front door is where you meet people pleasantly and, if necessary, accept their donated books. The back door is where you take the worthless books out to the trash can.

We do appreciate the good motives of people who want to donate books to libraries and the kindheartedness of librarians in accepting them—but this method will never make good libraries, even though some very worth while books are donated. When sufficient book budgets are secured book collections will be good in quality as well as quantity.

